

Computer- Assisted Translation Activity

This activity will help you evaluate computer- assisted translations.

Step1: Research. Due_____

Locate two computerized language translation tools.

List sources found:

1. _____

2. _____

Step 2: Try it out (Part I). Due_____

A. Translate the following pairs of sentences on each of the two Internet Translation services you found. (Translate first from English to French, and then back to English.):

The *bats fly* into the room

The *bats fly* into the dugout when the *batters* hit too hard.

I like ice cream with *nuts* on *top*.

Some people think I'm *nuts*.

I *can* drink a *can* of soda.

Can you dance the *can-can*?

When I was a *kid*, I *found* a silver dollar.

On what date did Bill *Gates found* Microsoft?

If I *get* any more chocolates, I'll *get* sick of them.

If you study your math, you'll eventually *get* it.

B. Print the second English translation out, write "source 1" or "source 2" on it, and hand in. Which one did better, and why?

Step 3: Try it out (Part II). Due_____

Write a one-paragraph autobiography in English (type this in a word processor). Include your name, age, family or friends, likes and/or dislikes, future plans.)

_____ Print it out.

_____ Choose the best translator from step 2. Paste in your English paragraph; translate it into French.

_____ Translate the French into any language other than English (for example, Spanish). Now, translate the product of that back into English.

_____ Print out the final translation (Eng-Fr-X-Eng).

_____ In a brief paragraph (in English) below the translation, compare the original version with the final English version.

Step 4: Reflection Due_____

Check all that seem true:

_____ My teacher will be able to tell easily if I've used an online translator.

_____Online translators do a good job.

_____I might use an online translator for verb forms.

_____I'm going to double-check anything I do on an online translator.

_____This was a useful activity for me.

Computer-Assisted Translation Project
-Purpose and Rubric -

The world is changing. Technology that was unimaginable 25 years ago is commonly available today. One of these new technologies is computer-assisted translation. Often we see a new technology and accept it without evaluating it. But is it good, ethical, wise in all situations? When is it a useful tool, and when does it cause more problems? This exercise will help you evaluate computer-assisted translations.

Rubric: (Completion of each step earns you the total points):

_____Step I (Research): 10 points

_____Step II(Try it out, Part 1) :10 points

_____Step III (Try it out, Part 2): 25 points

_____Step IV (Reflection checklist): 5 points

Name_____